

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06
AID-05 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03
CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 FEA-01 INT-05 DOTE-00
AGRE-00 OES-06 /093 W
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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, EMIN, ETRD, GV, LI
SUBJECT: VISIT OF GUINEAN ECONOMIC DELEGATION TO LIBERIA

REF: CONAKRY 2421

1. VISITING GUINEAN MINISTER OF DOMAINE OF ECONOMY AND
FINANCE ISMAEL TOURE AND LIBERIAN MINISTER OF FINANCE
JAMES T. PHILLIPS SIGNED SIX AGREEMENTS COVERING QTE TRADE
AND COMMERCE, FISHERIES, COMMUNICATIONS, JUSTICE AND ANI-
MAL HUSBANDRY, UNQTE. NO DETAILS OF THESE AGREEMENTS
HAVE BEEN MADE PUBLIC. FINANCE MINISTER PHILLIPS STATED
THAT PRIMARY PURPOSE OF MEETING OF QTE INTER-GOVERNMENTAL
COMMISSION ON COOPERATION BETWEEN GUINEA AND LIBERIA UNQTE
WAS TO STRENGTHEN TIES OF FRIENDSHIP AND MUTUAL COOPERA-
TION BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES.

2. MINISTER PHILLIPS TOOK ADVANTAGE OF VISIT TO ANNOUNCE
THAT GOL HAD PREVIOUSLY SIGNED AGREEMENT FOR ITS PARTICIPA-
TION IN MIFERGUI-NIMBA JOINT VENTURE AND HAS PAID \$50,000
FOR CLASS B SHARES AS ITS 5 PERCENT EQUITY PARTICIPA-
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TION. PHILLIPS ALSO MENTIONED THAT GOL HAD APPROVED
TRANSIT OF GUINEAN IRON ORE THROUGH LIBERIA. DURING ITS
WEEK-LONG VISIT (DEC.14-22) ELEVEN-MAN GUINEAN DELEGATION
VISITED LAMCO FACILITIES AT NIMBA AND BUCHANAN.

3. LAMCO GENERAL MANAGER HANS ASTRAND INFORMED EMBOFF

THAT GUINEA (PRESUMABLY MEANING JOINT VENTURE) WOULD HAVE
TO INVEST ABOUT \$100 MILLION FOR RAIL EXTENTION TO GUINEA
FROM NIMBA, DOUBLE-TRACKING OF 90 PERCENT OF RAILROAD TRACKS
AND EXPANSION OF PORT FACILITIES AT BUCHANAN. HE MAINTAINED
THIS INVESTMENT WAS NECESSARY TO GUARANTEE USE OF THESE
FACILITIES BY JOINT VENTURE. UNTIL SUCH AN INVESTMENT IS
MADE, ASTRAND THOUGHT IT WOULD BE PREMATURE TO TALK ABOUT
FREIGHT AND PORT CHARGES FOR GUINEAN ORE.
CARTER

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